Leicester, Oct. 30. 1849.

My dear Sir,

After some delay, in seeing any of our Hopedale friends, I succeeded at last in seeing Mr Draper on Saturday, when I paid him, on your account, twenty five dollars, as you will see by enclosed receipt. By your recent letter I received your note for Twenty dollars. — Mr Draper told me that Charles had had serious thoughts of going to California — but he believed had now entirely abandoned the thought. Hamilton Willis, I understood, had strongly favored his going. C. has now several children boarding with him.

I should be highly pleased to attend an Anti-Slavery Convention at Syracuse. Your letter was the first intimation I had that such a Convention, under the auspices of the Amr. A.S. Society, was thought of. I since have a Circular from Gay, in which he speaks of the first of December as the probable time. I am sorry to say that, at that time, I could not go to S., and (what is more to the purposes of the Convention) Phillips & Garrison could not; — having previous engagements. I wrote to Gay last week to that effect; and I know not what course he will take. It seems to me it would be better to postpone until the approach of Spring. What kind of a time would March be for such a Convention? Would it come too near to the Annual meeting in May? I think not.

The alliance of the Free Soilers & Barnburners of N. York

Saml. May jr

Rev. Samuel J. May.
Syracuse.
N. Y.

Paid
Ct. 45.

Saml. May jr
Oct. 30. 1849

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with the Democrats of the 'old Hunker' school, so called, without any anti-slavery conditions implied or expressed, has a very bad & injurious aspect. Some few of the Free Soil men here try to think, and make others think, that all the Democrats now are going for Anti-slavery, but the great mass of the people, including most of the Free Soilers I should say, regard it as a fatal step in the Hamburner portion, and a giving up of the whole point at issue. I have become well convinced that John Van Buren is a tricky & knavish fellow, and that his great & leading aim, in all his movements, is no higher than to punish those Democrats, South and North, who defeated his father in the Baltimore Convention of 1844. In this State the Free Soilers, in some Counties, are forming temporary (perhaps lasting) connexions with the old democrats, with a view to the possession of political power in State affairs, & especially to the election of an anti-Whig Governor. I think Stephen C. Phillips of Salem has a not bad chance of being made Governor by the Legislature, provided the people should make no choice, as they probably will not. The State election here comes on in less than 2 weeks.

We, who have no part or lot in caucusings & electioneering, continue to hold our meetings, calling on the people everywhere to cease from being the slaveholder's strong arm, as they now are, in keeping the slaves in their chains. Some are impressed & brought to the light; and those, whom we cannot induce to take this ground, are yet impelled to more vigorous antislavery action

in their respective parties & sects, than they would otherwise have taken. So we consider that "every thing helps us" - all thought, all feeling, all discussion about the matter must tend to advance the truth.

All well with you, I hope. We are all pretty well now. This is my boy Joseph's 5th birthday. I am on my way to the Western part of the State where I expect to spend some weeks in Anti-slavery work.

Have you seen Rufell Lamb Carpenter? He is in the country now, & has been into the State of New York. I have missed seeing him hitherto. I suspect that he means to fight shy of the Abolitionists.

We all send love to your wife, to Miss Coffin, and to your children, one and all, - and to yourself.

With sincere affection,

Yours

Samuel May, Jr.

To
Rev. Sam. J. May,
Syracuse, N.Y.

P.S. "By the way, I had a letter recently from Dr. Whittemore, in which he informed me that Mr. F. was about leaving them. He intimated a good deal of dissatisfaction existing with him, but gave me no particulars. He did not wish to have the thing (I mean the separation) talked about at present, but it seems to me you ought to know it; - perhaps you do.

Rev. Samuel J. May.

Syracuse.

N. Y.

Paid
Ch. 45.

Saml. J. May
Dec. 30. 1845

Ms.A.1.c.1.35